



It was an excited AFA Stud Team that lined up to be photographed with the **Riverina Wool Australian Champion Hogget Merino Ram** at the 2025 Hay Sheep Show; Tom Charlton, Angus Knox, Charlie Shingles, Forbes Murdoch, Chris Bowman, Tom Lilburne, Angus Munro and Justin Campbell with Poll Boonoke Sefton.

3RD SHEPHERD'S CROOK FOR AFA

When the entries for the Riverina Wool Australian Champion Hogget Merino Ram class line up on the mat for the judges at the Hay Merino Sheep Show it is an impressive Merino spectacle. Rams from South Australia, Victoria and NSW compete for the generous prize pool; the winner awarded Champion Hogget Merino Ram status, plus the distinguished Shepherd's Crook, and the runner up from each of the other states represented named Best in State.

Poll Boonoke 240424 'Sefton' became the third Champion Hogget Merino Ram for the Stud since winning its first Shepherd's Crook in 2014 with PB130037 'Otway', the influential Stud Sire PB140948 backing up this win in 2015. The Poll Boonoke and Wanganella Studs have since had the NSW Best In State Hogget Rams in 2016, 2017, 2022 and 2024.

Sefton, named in honour of long time FSF employee and General Manager Bob Sefton who passed away in early June, was sired by PB210231 and his grand sire is the notable PB160612. He is a March blade shorn shedded PP ram, his May fleece measurements were FD 20.7, SD 3.1, CV 15.0 and CF 99.5, and he weighed 118.0 kg just prior to going to the show when he scanned an EMD of 42.5 and Fat 7.0. Sefton's ASBVs are in the top 5% for Adult CFW and top 10% for Post Weaning, Yearling and Carcase Weights.

THREE FIBRE MEAT PLUS CHAMPIONS AT ADELAIDE

The Fibre Meat Plus Class equally combines the Wool and Meat characteristics of each entry to identify the ram with the best combination of superior wool and carcase attributes. The rams are scored out of 100 by a Wool Judge and a Carcase Judge in conjunction with their current fleece and carcase measurements.

36 rams were presented to the Judges of the Fibre Meat Plus Class at the Royal Adelaide Show in September 2024, and for the third consecutive year the Poll Boonoke Stud came away with the ribbon. The 2024 winner was Poll Boonoke 231331 and Poll Boonoke 230185, who was sold a week later at auction to the Almondvale Stud, placed third in the lineup. PB231331 was retained as a Stud Sire with his first lambs just on the ground; he is a strong wool ET lamb sired by Moorundie 190008 and we have him in the Ramshed again this year as a March blade shorn display ram. He recently tested FD 20.3, SD 4.2, CV 20.8 and CF 99.1 and scanned an EMD 46.0 and Fat 8.0.

Poll Boonoke 231331, winner of the Fibre Meat Plus Class
at the Royal Adelaide Show 2024, held by Tom Lilburne.



Prior to the September 2024 success of PB231331 at the Royal Adelaide Show, there were some other noteworthy results when a sample of our 2023 drop rams were exhibited in the showing.

Poll Boonoke 230265, 231331 & 230700

1st Place - Elders Pen of Three March Shorn Rams
National Merino Sheep Show, Dubbo, August 2024
Repeating the Poll Boonoke win in 2023



The Poll Boonoke trio photographed with Forbes Murdoch, Tom Lilburne, Angus Munro, Angus Knox, Chris Bowman, Justin Campbell and Paul Jamieson (Elders - Sponsor).

Poll Boonoke 231331 x M190008

Champion All Purpose Meat Merino
Reserve Champion
March Shorn Strong Wool Poll Ram
Australian Sheep & Wool Show,
Bendigo, July 2024
Reserve Champion Strong Wool
March Shorn Poll Ram
Rabobank National Merino Sheep
Show, Dubbo, August 2024



PB231331 photographed with Oliver Cameron

Poll Boonoke 230185 x PB160612

FD 18.6 SD 2.8 CV 15.3 CF 99.8
EMD 43.5 FAT 7.5
Reserve Champion
Macdonald Wool Hogget Ram Competition
Marra Field Day, July 2024



PB230185 photographed with Angus Munro, Don Macdonald (Sponsor), Matthew Coddington (Judge) and Angus Knox.

Wanganella 230424 x WIL210330

FD 19.3 SD 2.7 CV 13.8 CF 99.7 EMD 42.5 FAT 6.0
Reserve Champion
Medium Wool March Shorn Merino Ram
Rabobank National Merino Sheep Show,
Dubbo, August 2024



W230424 photographed with Tom Lilburne

FAREWELL TOM LILBURNE

AFA will sadly say goodbye to Tom Lilburne following this year's Australian Sheep & Wool Show when he returns home to concentrate his efforts on his family's grazing business and Bluebush Poll Merino Stud. Tom has had two employment stints with the AFA Studs; three years as Jackaroo and Overseer prior to the COVID years, to then return as Stud Manager in 2022. The Lilburne name is renown in the Australian Merino industry, and there is no doubt that Tom will uphold the Family legacy with time now to broaden his classing run. Tom has done a sterling job looking after the AFA Stud Flocks and training the young men who have worked with him, and he leaves AFA with our gratitude and best wishes. Justin Campbell and Angus Munro continue to be the Stud's contact points and the day to day stud management will again be Justin's responsibility.



Tom Lilburne

PRE AUCTION RAM INSPECTION

**THURSDAY 28 AUGUST
BOONOKE WOOLSHED YARDS**

We encourage you to take up the opportunity to inspect the AFA Auction Rams in the race at the Boonoke Woolshed Yards on Thursday 28 August from 9.30 am. Plenty of space and time to scrutinise the rams and talk to the Stud Team without the pressure of a sale-o call looming. Arrive on sale day with your buying list prepared or if you can't make it to the auction bid online via StockLive with confidence in your selection.

Apart from standing our stud sheep up against their peers in a range of industry events each year for benchmarking, marketing and networking purposes, we continue to evaluate our genetic progress through the collection of an array of practical measurements for inclusion in Sheep Genetics ASBV data, extensive DNA sampling of primarily our Poll Boonoke Stud, recording classing information for in-house analysis, entering sires into Industry Evaluation Trials and via our discussions with clients and industry advisers. All to target Productive • Balanced • Measured Merinos.



NEW MERINO DIARY DATE

**Wanganella & Poll Boonoke will be at the
RIVERINA SHEEP & WOOL EXPO
Wednesday 27 August, Conargo Sports Ground**

**Sheep & Wool Stud Displays • Industry Speakers • Trade Displays
Brought to you by Riverina Merinos, Elders, Nutrien & AWN**

MERINO LINK BATHURST 2024 SIRE EVALUATION

We currently have Poll Boonoke 200780 entered in the Merino Link Bathurst 2024 Drop Sire Evaluation. In a recent update report for the trial, which includes 15 sires and 491 progeny, PB200780 is in the top 4 for Weaning Weight and Post Weaning Weight in both the Adjusted Sire Mean and Flock Breeding Value results.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 RAM BUYERS

2024 Auction Results

209 Rams Offered & Sold
Top \$17,000, average \$2,616
15 Shedded Rams averaged \$7,233
194 Paddock Rams averaged \$2,259

49 Wanganella Rams Offered & Sold
Top \$10,500, average \$2,490
3 Shedded Rams averaged \$4,000
46 Paddock Rams averaged \$2,391

160 Poll Boonoke Rams Offered & Sold
Top \$17,000, average \$2,655
12 Shedded Rams averaged \$8,042
148 Paddock Rams averaged \$2,218

1,630 Wanganella & Poll Boonoke Flock
Grade Rams selected and sold in 2024



Lot 6 - Poll Boonoke 230203 x PB160612
FD 18.4 SD 3.5 CV 19.2 CF 99.5 EMD 40.5 Fat 6.0 PP
Sold for \$17,000 to JG, KP & JL Maher, Narromine, NSW
Photographed with Justin Campbell, Tom Charlton, Alastair Provan (AFA), Chris Bowman (Purchaser's Classer), Matt Tinkler & Rick Power (Elders & Nutrien Auctioneers).



Lot 1 - Poll Boonoke 230265 x PB190678
FD 19.7 SD 2.9 CV 14.8 CF 99.7 EMD 43.5 Fat 6.5 PP
Sold for \$16,500 to Gundarimbah Poll Stud, Parkes, NSW. Photographed with Charles Shingles (AFA), Chris Bowman (Gundarimbah Classer) & Spike & Kate Orr (Gundarimbah Stud Principals).



Lot 4 - Poll Boonoke 231142 (Prime Family) x RA210024
FD 20.7 SD 2.8 CV 13.7 CF 99.8 EMD 42.0 Fat 7.0 PP
Lot 15 Wanganella 230421 x WIL210330
FD 17.8 SD 3.0 CV 17.0 CF 99.9 EMD 39.5 Fat 6.0
Sold for \$5,000 & \$4,000 to Kiawarra Merino Studs, Weethalle, NSW. Photographed with Tim McMeekin (Elders), Angus Knox, Oliver Cameron (AFA) & Alex Karsten (Kiawarra Stud Principal).

BUYING WANGANELLA & POLL BOONOKE RAMS IN 2025

**AFA RAM AUCTION
WEDNESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2025**

**50 WANGANELLA & 150 POLL BOONOKE
AT 'BOONOKE', CONARGO
INSPECTION FROM 9 AM, AUCTION AT 1 PM**

PRIVATE SELECTIONS OF FLOCK GRADE RAMS

**APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE FROM
THURSDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2025**

**FLOCK GRADE PRICES
\$1900 + GST, \$1200 + GST & \$900 + GST**

Pre Auction Ram Inspection:

The AFA Auction Rams will be in the Boonoke Yards from 9.30 am on Thursday 28 August ready for your inspection in the race. Contact one of the Stud Team if you need to make alternative inspection arrangements.

Auction Catalogue:

An easy to print catalogue will be available online from 2 September. A printed catalogue booklet will be available on auction day. Contact Robyn at the Boonoke Office on 1800 675 729 or email rsmith@austfood.com.au if you would like a copy of the catalogue forwarded to you.

Auction Ram Videos:

Auction ram videos will be made available via YouTube; with links accessible on the AFA website and on StockLive. You can also contact the Boonoke Office to have video links forwarded directly to you.

ASBVs:

Auction rams will be displayed with ASBVs sourced from the MerinoSelect 21 August 2025 database analysis.

StockLive:

The online auction platform for the 2025 AFA Ram Auction will be StockLive. Please ensure that you have established an account prior to the auction if you are considering bidding online. Contact StockLive at www.stocklive.com.au or 1300 259 742.



Lot 2 - Poll Boonoke 230198 x PB160612
FD 18.6 SD 2.9 CV 15.5 CF 99.7 EMD 44.5 Fat 8.0 PP
Sold for \$16,000 to Wyara Poll Stud, Clare, SA.
Photographed with Justin Campbell, Angus Knox, Alastair Provan (AFA), Gerald & Jodie Mullighan (Wyara Stud Principals) & Chris Bowman (Wyara Stud Classer).



Lot 55 - Wanganella 232166 x W180380
FD 19.2 SD 2.7 CV 14.0 CF 99.8 EMD 38.5 Fat 6.0
Sold for \$10,500 to Garford Farming, Ungarie, NSW
Photographed with Angus Munro (Garford Farming Classer), Paul McClintock (Garford Farming Principal) & Forbes Murdoch (AFA Stud Master).



Lot 8 - Poll Boonoke 231173 (Prime Family) x RA210024
FD 18.5 SD 2.5 CV 13.5 CF 99.7 EMD 42.5 Fat 7.0 PP
Sold for \$7,500 to Oxtan Park Pty Ltd, Harden, NSW
Photographed with Angus Knox, Tom Lilburne (AFA), Tim McMeekin (Elders), Paul O'Connor (Oxtan Park) & Chris Bowman (Oxtan Park Classer).



Lot 7 - Poll Boonoke 230182 x PB160612
FD 19.3 SD 2.5 CV 13.2 CF 99.8 EMD 45.0 Fat 7.5 PP
Sold for \$5,000 to Springleigh Merinos, Blackall, Qld.
Photographed with Oona, Wally & Ben Banks and Zara, Ella, Alexandra, Megan & Dominic Mohr. PB230182 is held by Angus Munro (AFA Breeding Manager).



Lot 3 - Poll Boonoke 230185 x PB160612
FD 18.6 SD 2.8 CV 15.2 CF 99.8 EMD 43.5 Fat 7.5 PP
Sold for \$5,000 to Almondvale Stud, Urana, NSW
Photographed with Tom Charlton, Tom Lilburne (AFA) & Paul, Grace & Lachlan Routley (Almondvale Principals).



Classings Classic Auction
2 September 2024 at Murray Bridge, SA
Poll Boonoke 231174 (Prime Family) x RA210024
FD 19.2 SD 2.8 CV 14.5 CF 99.4 EMD 43.5 Fat 8.0 PP
Sold for \$11,000 to Caroonboon Merino Stud, Wanganella, NSW.

Auction Agents:

Elders and Nutrien, Deniliquin will be the Agents in conjunction for the auction. Elders will settle the 2025 auction. Rams are auctioned at prices exclusive of GST, with GST added to the invoice.

Outside Agents:

A 3% rebate is offered to Outside Agents who advise the details of potential purchasers prior to 9 am on auction day to the Boonoke Office or the Auction Agents, and settle an auction ram purchase on behalf of that client within 7 days. A 1% rebate is offered to Outside Agents who settle an auction ram purchase invoice on behalf of a client within 7 days.

Topping Up:

For Auction Buyers unable to secure their full ram requirement during the auction there will be a limited number of \$1,900 + GST rams available after the auction to finalise orders. See one of the AFA Stud Team at the conclusion of the auction if you need to make a selection.

PB Primes:

A specially bred Poll Boonoke family with an emphasis on carcass attributes, these non mulesed rams will be offered in the auction and in the flock grades.

Flock Grade Ram Selections:

Private ram selection appointments will be available from Thursday 18 September 2025 at the Boonoke Woolshed Yards. Appointments can be arranged by submitting a ram order form (an online option is available at austfood.com.au) or by contacting the Stud Team or the Boonoke Office with your ram requirements. We will confirm a selection appointment date and time with you.

Semen Orders:

Semen is available from a selection of leading AFA Stud Sires. Contact one of the AFA Stud Team to discuss sire options. Semen orders can be placed online at austfood.com.au or the Team can forward an order form to you. The domestic semen price is \$60+GST per dose plus semen despatch and freight costs. Minimum semen order of 50 doses.

Ram Deliveries:

We highly recommend that you take your rams home with you after the auction or a private selection, but for those who require it we will arrange district deliveries of rams and they will be delivered off shears.

Health Status:

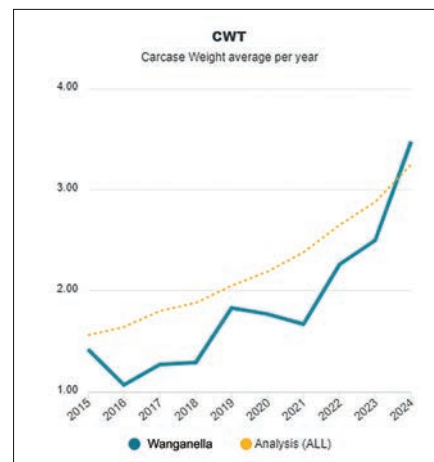
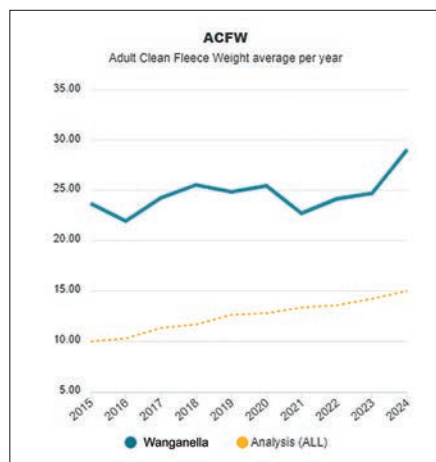
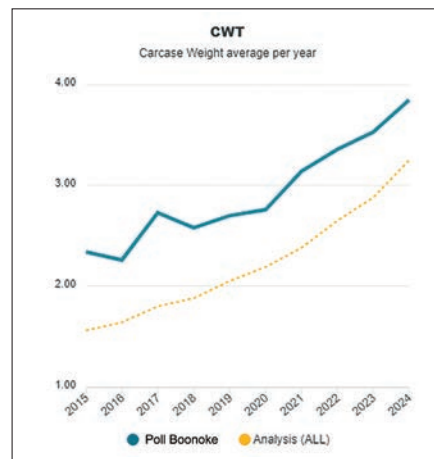
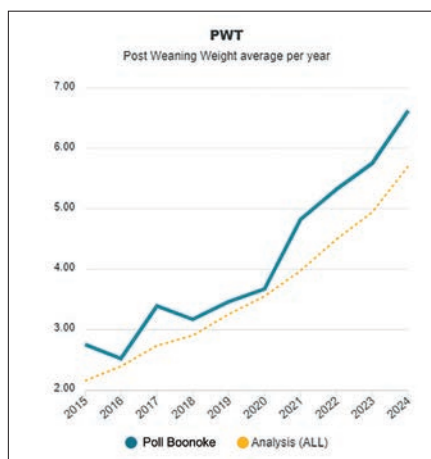
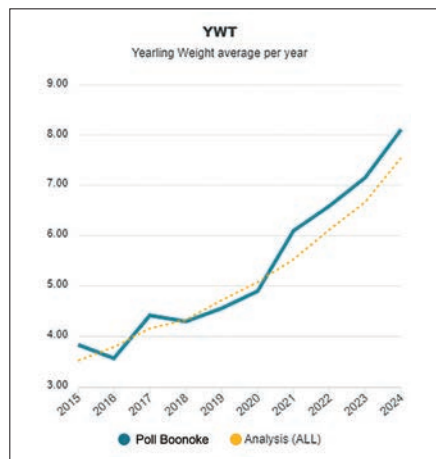
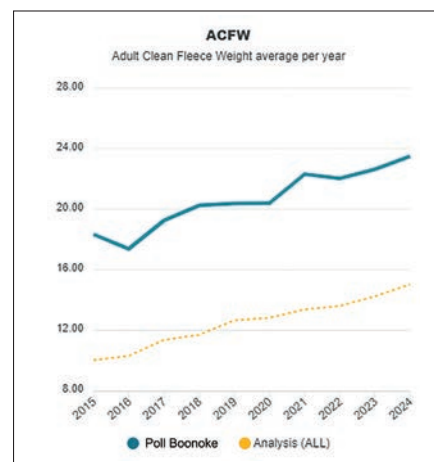
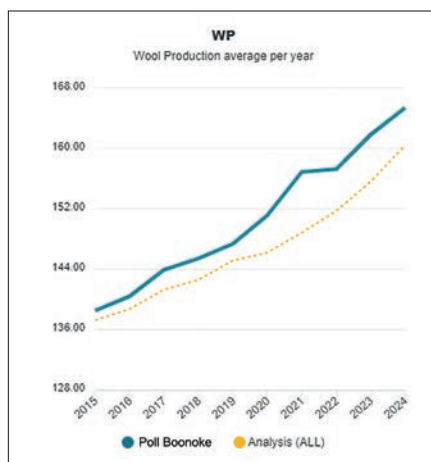
The Wanganella & Poll Boonoke Merino Studs are Ovine Brucellosis Accredited Free Flocks and have an OJD MN3 Flock Status in the National John's Disease Market Assurance Program. The Wanganella & Poll Boonoke Studs are Owner Declared Footrot Free.

Semen Marketing Rights:

Australian Food & Agriculture Company Limited retains 50% semen marketing rights from all Wanganella & Poll Boonoke rams sold either by auction or private treaty, unless otherwise varied by negotiation prior to sale.

DATA SUPPORTS THE PRODUCTIVITY DIRECTION

This sample of genetic trend data, extracted from the MerinoSelect 21 June 2025 analysis, mirrors the physical attributes that we are selecting for, measures and compares the stud flock gains achieved against the Sheep Genetics database over the past 10 years and highlights our focus on breeding dual purpose Merinos as we simultaneously enhance our wool and carcase productivity. Focussing on the productivity basics of the Merino increases flock returns.



We were shocked to learn in October 2024 of the passing of Lloyd Godfrey of Vellum Downs, Hughenden in an unfortunate farm accident. Lloyd was just one of those good blokes that we all admire; a gentleman by nature, devoted to his family, passionate about his land and his sheep, a faithful supporter of his community and a cheeky interest in racehorses. Sadly, we are another good Sheepman down and our deepest sympathies are extended to Mrs Beryl Godfrey, their children, family and friends.

AFA STUD BREEDING NUMBERS

Wanganella

- 2,922 Ewes Joined
- 794 maiden ewes
- 727 special AI ewes
- 1,401 syndicate joined ewes

Poll Boonoke

- 4,841 Ewes Joined
- 1,425 maiden ewes
- 1,556 special AI ewes
- 1,860 syndicate joined ewes
- 309 embryo transfer recipient ewes



StockLive will be the online auction platform for the 2025 AFA Ram Auction. If you are unable to attend the auction you can utilise StockLive to bid from your computer or mobile device. You will need to register a new online bidding account with StockLive before auction day. Everything you need to know to register your new account can be found at stocklive.com.au/learn or contact StockLive on 1300 259 742 for assistance.

In the swings and roundabouts of farming, we have clients in 2025 enjoying a bountiful season, other clients facing the harshness of an extended dry period, there are some who sit on the cusp of it going either way for them and there are those who are fighting back after experiencing the overwhelming devastation of flood waters. We wish everyone a better 2nd half of 2025 and hope that you are finding the support you need to deal with your situation.

FOR THE RECORD

Angus Munro was on hand in May with an AFA ram display at the strongly supported 2025 Blackall Show to see the Sanderson Family of Westbourne, Tambo take out the Grand Champion Pen of Ewes, Grand Champion Ewe and the Reserve Champion Single Medium Fleece, repeating the Westbourne's flock's similar success at the Tambo Show the previous week. The MacDonald Family, of Bloomfield and Lilyveil, Blackall placed 1st in the Pen of Unshorn Lambs and had the Reserve Champion Single Hogget Fleece and Champion Local Fleece of the Show.

AFA's Burrabogie Flock placed 1st and 2nd in the Pen of Five Ewe Weaners class at the June 2025 Hay Sheep Show, and at the end of the day this Wanganella and Poll Boonoke blood flock, classed by Chris Bowman, was awarded the Elders Prize for the Most Successful Hay District Exhibitor.

Congratulations to The Brabin Family, Poll Boonoke clients located at Junee, NSW, who recently sold Merino wether lambs for \$287

after shearing \$45 worth of wool from them. Highlights the value of the dual purpose power of the Merino.

Congratulations to the Sweeney Family, their Poll Boonoke blood Pinehurst flock placed 3rd in the inaugural Castlereagh Flock Ewe Competition in March 2025.

1 July 2025 marks 25 years of Australian Food & Agriculture Co having stewardship of the Wanganella & Poll Boonoke Studs longer than News Limited, Cleckheaton and the Peppins!!!



Angus Munro and Angus Knox with Craig Sanderson, 'Westbourne' and his Champion Pen of Ewes classed by Chris Bowman.

NLIS eID SHEEP TAGS

We have been using electronic tags for the AFA Stud sheep for many years to facilitate data collection and management. It is important to note that the electronic tags used in our 2023 drop and older sheep are NOT accredited NLIS eID tags, simply because they did not exist pre the tagging of our 2024 drop lambs. Come 1 January 2027, when all sheep leaving any property must have an NLIS eID, you will need to remove our non compliant electronic tags to enable the readers at saleyards, abattoirs, etc to read the correct electronic tag.



This logo appears on all accredited NLIS eID tags.

VALE ROBERT GORDON SEFTON 1936 - 2025

Bob Sefton, FSF General Manager, retired in 1997 after nearly 40 years working on the FSF properties under three different ownerships; the Falkiner family, Cleckheaton and News Limited. Bob was employed by Basil Clapham to jackaroo at Wanganella Estate (now Peppinella) immediately he finished school at Barker College, he subsequently became the Overseer before transferring to FSF's Queensland property as Manager. Following a few years working for T A Field Estates, Bob returned to Boonoke where he was to fulfil the Manager and FSF General Manager roles for the remainder of his career and was appointed a Company Director when News Limited purchased FSF. Bob had first hand experience of virtually every facet of the FSF operation and had a unique understanding of the business and the industry. The Boonoke Ramshed complex, designed and built by Bob, remains a tangible tribute to all that Bob achieved and contributed to the business that he was so dedicated to. Always a man of the land, Bob instinctively understood country, stock and people and how to get the best out of them. A big bloke; Bob was tough but fair, hard working, so stubborn, fiercely loyal, innovative, a wise mentor, a natural stockman, a formidable Boss, a good mate and a devoted family man. Bob's was a life well lived and his passing on 1 June 2025 absolutely leaves us a good man down.



SEE THE AFA STUDS IN 2025

If you would like to visit us on property to inspect our rams and see our breeding flocks in our paddocks please contact one of the Stud Team to make the arrangements, we would welcome the opportunity to discuss our genetics with you. We'll also be displaying sheep on:

18 - 20 July

Australian Sheep & Wool Show
Prince of Wales Showground
Bendigo

2 August

Nyngan Ag Expo
Nyngan Showground

12 - 13 August

National Merino Sheep Show
Dubbo Showground

27 August

Riverina Sheep & Wool Expo
Conargo Sports Ground

28 August

AFA Pre Auction Ram Inspection
Boonoke Woolshed Yards

2 September

South West Slopes Stud
Merino Breeders Field Day
Harden Showground

3 - 5 September

Adelaide Royal Show
Adelaide Showground

17 September

AFA Ram Auction
Boonoke Ramshed -
Munro Plot

From 18 September

Private Ram Selections
By Appointment

AFA STUD CONTACT DETAILS

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Stud Principal

Australian Food & Agriculture Company

austfood.com.au

Instagram: wanganella.pollboonoke

YouTube: Wanganella Poll Boonoke